CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer <u>and surface-crosslinking the resulting resin</u>,

which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm, [[(]]but not including 850 μm[[)]], account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and

which composition contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) at least on surfaces.

2. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer <u>and surface-crosslinking the resulting resin</u>,

which composition contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) and a tri- or more functional polycation at least on surfaces.

3. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 2, which has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm, [[(]]but not including 850 μm[[)]], account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety.

4. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer <u>and surface-crosslinking the resulting resin</u>,

which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm, [[(]]but not including 850 μm[[)]], account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and

which composition satisfies the following relation:

liquid distribution velocity (LDV) (mm/s) > -0.186 x water absorption capacity without load (CRC) (g/g) + 5.75

[[(]]wherein LDV > 0.10 (mm/s)[[)]].

5. (Currently amended) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a particulate water-absorbent resin composition comprising a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer and surface-crosslinking the resulting resin,

which composition has a particle size such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm, [[(]]but not including 850 μm[[)]], account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and

which composition is in the range of 0.03 to 0.15 in surface OH/C ratio as determined by photoelectron spectrometry.

6. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 4, which contains a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) at least on surfaces.

7. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation (σζ) of particle size distribution.

8. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is contained in the range of 0.01 to 20 weight % relative to the water-absorbent resin (A).

9. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is a sugar alcohol.

10. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 20 g/g in water absorption capacity without load (CRC).

11. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 20 g/g in water absorption capacity under load (AAP).

12. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 10 (unit: $10^{-7} \times cm^3 \times s \times g^{-1}$) in saline flow conductivity (SFC).

13. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 0.15 (g/g/s) in water absorption capacity without load (CRC) (g/g)/liquid-sucking-uprate-(WR) (s).

14. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 0.15 (g/g/s) in water absorption capacity under load (AAP) (g/g)/liquid-sucking-up rate (WR) (s).

15. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is not less than 0.50 (unit: $10^{-7} \times cm^3 \times g^{-1}$) in saline flow conductivity (SFC) (unit: $10^{-7} \times cm^3 \times s \times g^{-1}$)/liquid-sucking-up rate (WR) (s).

16. (Previously presented) A particulate water-absorbent resin composition according to claim 1, which is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation (σζ) of particle size distribution.

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A process for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which is a process for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition including a water-absorbent resin (A) of a crosslinked structure obtained by polymerizing an acid-group-containing unsaturated monomer and surface-crosslinking the resulting polymerization reaction product,

wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is such that particles in the range of 850 to 150 μm, [[(]]but not including 850 μm[[)]], account for not less than 90 weight % of the entirety, and further wherein the process includes a step of mixing the water-absorbent resin (A) and a tetra- or more functional polyol (B) together.

19. (Original) A process according to claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, wherein the tetra- or more functional polyol (B) is a sugar alcohol.

20. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) is in the range of 300 to 600 μm in weight-average particle diameter (D50) and in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 in logarithmic standard deviation(σζ) of particle size distribution.

21. (Previously presented) A process according to claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, which further includes a step of carrying out a heat treatment so that 10 to 90 % of the mixed tetra- or more functional polyol (B) will remain unreacted in the particulate water-absorbent resin composition.

22. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 18 for production of a particulate water-absorbent resin composition, ~~which further includes a step of causing~~ wherein the water-absorbent resin (A) ~~to further react~~ is obtained by reacting the polymerization reaction product with a surface-crosslinking agent (C) other than the tetra- or more functional polyol (B).